

Raphaëla Heesen

PhD Student, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland

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EDUCATION

- 2016-2019 PhD Biology, FNS, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland, Supervisors: Klaus Zuberbühler, Adrian Bangerter, Emilie Genty
- 2015-2016 MRes (Distinction) Primate Biology, Behaviour & Conservation, University of Roehampton, UK, Supervisor: Stuart Semple
- 2011-2015 BSc (Distinction, Honors Degree) Biology, Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, Germany, Supervisor: Horst Bleckmann

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2018 Experimental Research for PhD Thesis with Bonobos, Lola Ya Bonobo, DRC
- 2018 Experimental Research for PhD Thesis with Bonobos and Chimpanzees, La Vallée des Singes, France
- 2017 Observational Research for PhD Thesis with Bonobos, La Vallée des Singes, France
- 2016 Observational Research for PhD Thesis with Bonobos, San Diego Zoo, USA
- 2015 Research Intern, Lester E. Fisher Center for the Study and Conservation of Apes, Lincoln Park Zoo, Chicago, USA, Research Curators Dr Steve Ross and Dr Lydia Hopper
- 2014 Research Assistant, Primate and Predator Project, Durham University, UK, at Lajuma Research Centre, South Africa, Research Curators Dr Russel Hill and Dr Sam Williams
- 2013 Research Field Work in Alberta, Canada, Department of Zoology, Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, Research Curator Dr Steve Perry
- 2012 Research Assistant, Department of Comparative and Developmental Psychology, Max-Planck-Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany, Research Curator Dr Michael Tomasello

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 2019 Genty E, Heesen R, Rossano F, Zuberbühler K, Guery JP & Bangerter A. How apes get into and out of joint actions: precursors of shared intentionality? (In Revision).
- 2019 Heesen R, Hobaiter C, Ferrer-i-Cancho R & Semple S. Linguistic laws in chimpanzee gestural communication. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B, Biological Sciences*, 286, (2019): 20182900.
- 2017 Heesen R, Genty E, Rossano F, Zuberbühler K & Bangerter A. Social play as joint action: a framework to study the evolution of shared intentionality as an interactional achievement. *Learning & behaviour*, 45, (2017): 390-405.

FUNDING

- 2016 Kölner Gymnasial- und Stiftungsfond Doctoral Scholarship, 3800€
- 2015 Kölner Gymnasial- und Stiftungsfond Postgraduate Scholarship, 4500€
- 2013 Erasmus Scholarship, Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, 800€
- 2012 Honors Student Scholarship, Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, 5400€

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- 2018 Free Waiver Status for Abstract Excellence at Evolution of Language Conference XII, Torun, Poland
- 2016 Annual Prize for Best Dissertation in MRes, University of Roehampton
- 2013 Obtained Honors Degree for Best Student of the Year, at Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

Conference presentations: Talks (First Author)

- 2019 Heesen R, Genty E, Rossano F, Zuberbühler K & Bangerter A. *Entering and exiting joint actions in great apes: a pragmatic approach to studying language evolution*. ISLE Inaugural Workshop, University of Zürich, Switzerland
- 2019 Heesen R, Genty E, Rossano F, Zuberbühler K & Bangerter A. *The tug-of-war game: Evidence for Joint Commitment in Great Apes*. Annual meeting (NeuZü) between the Anthropological Institute and Museum of Zürich, the Eco-Ethology Laboratory of Neuchâtel and the Comparative Cognition Laboratory of Neuchâtel, University of Zürich
- 2018 Heesen R, Hobaiter C, Ferrer-i-Cancho R, Semple S. *Linguistic Laws in Chimpanzee Gestural Communication*. 12th Meeting of the Evolution of Language (EVOLANG), Torun, Poland
- 2018 Heesen R, Genty E, Rossano F, Zuberbühler K & Bangerter A. *Joint Action in Humans and Non-Humans: A Comparative Framework to Study Shared Intentionality*. Annual Meeting of Biology 18, University of Neuchâtel (*Poster Flashtalk*)
- 2018 Heesen R, Genty E, Rossano F, Zuberbühler K & Bangerter A. *Coordination of Joint Action in Bonobos, Pan paniscus: A Model to Study the Evolution of Shared Intentionality*. Meeting NeuZü, University of Neuchâtel

Conference Presentations: Talks (Co-Author)

- 2017 Semple S, Heesen R, Hobaiter C, Ferrer-i-Cancho R. *Linguistic Laws in Chimpanzee Gestural Communication*. 7th Meeting of European Federation for Primatology (EFP), Strasbourg, France

Conference Presentations: Posters (First Author)

- 2018 Heesen R, Genty E, Rossano F, Zuberbühler K & Bangerter A. *Joint Action in Humans and Non-Humans: A Comparative Framework to Study Shared Intentionality*. Annual Meeting of Biology 18, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland

Conference Attendance (Without Presentation)

- 2017 7th Meeting of European Federation for Primatology (EFP), Strasbourg, France
- 2015 Primate Social Learning and Culture, Primate Society of Great Britain, Winter Meeting, London, UK
- 2015 84th Meeting of American Association of Physical Anthropologists (AAPA), St. Louis, Missouri

AD HOC REVIEWING

- 2019 Journal of Human Evolution
- 2019 Evolution Letters
- 2019 American Journal of Primatology
- 2018 EVOLANG XII

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Language Skills

German (Native) • English (Fluent) • French (Fluent) • Lingala (Only Basic)

2018 French Course, University of Neuchâtel
2014 English Test “IELTS”, Score 7.5, Cologne, Germany

Computer Skills

R • ELAN • FileMaker Pro • IBM SPSS • Microsoft Office • ArcGIS

PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

2019 Career Booster: How to Communicate with Impact in a Job Interview, University of Neuchâtel
2018 Advanced Programming with R, University of Lausanne, Switzerland
2018 ELAN Practical, University of Neuchâtel
2017 Giving, Using and Receiving Text Feedback, University of Neuchâtel
2017 Introduction to Data Analysis with R, University of Neuchâtel
2016 Processing Interactional Data with Praat and R, University of Neuchâtel

SUPERVISION EXPERIENCE

2018 Local Research Assistant “On-site” Supervisor for Experimental Research, Lola Ya Bonobo, DRC
2017 Research Assistant “On-site” Supervisor for Observational Research, La Vallée des Singes, France

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

2016-2019 Member of the Interuniversity Doctoral Program in Organismal Biology, University of Neuchâtel
2018 Presentation of PhD Research for Zoo Staff, Lola Ya Bonobo, DRC
2018 Presentation of PhD Research for Zoo Staff, La Vallée des Singes, France
2017 Presentation of PhD Research for Zoo Staff, La Vallée des Singes, France
2016 Presentation of PhD Research for Zoo Staff, San Diego Zoo, USA
2017 Representing the Department of Comparative Cognition at Open Student Day, University of Neuchâtel
2016 Representing the Department of Comparative Cognition at Open Student Day, University of Neuchâtel
2015 Member of the Primate Society of Great Britain (PSGB)
2014 Member of the OFI Orangutan Foundation International
2012-2013 Member of the Departmental Committee for the Student Community at the Institute of Zoology, Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn

MEDIA COVERAGE OF PUBLISHED RESEARCH

Broadcast (Interviews)

BBC Radio 4 Today • BBC World News TV • BBC World Service, The Newsroom • Ö1 ORF Mittagsjournal

Print (Scientific Blogs)

BBC Science Focus • Proceedings of the Royal Society B • University of Roehampton • Big Think • Sci News • Naked Science

Print (Newspaper)

The Times • Daily Mail • Daily Telegraph • New Scientist • The Guardian • Evening Standard • Metro • BBC Science Focus • Yahoo News • The Sunday Post • Irish Examiner • Irish News • Evening Express • Science Alert • VN Online • RT • Earth • Sci-News • Grenzwissenschaft Aktuell • SOTT Sign of the Times • ORF • Pieuvre.ca • Naked Science